

JANET L. DERBAWKA*

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Janet Derbawka is an accomplished lawyer practising commercial real estate law, and business law, and advising on commercial acquisitions, dispositions and financing transactions. With extensive experience negotiating lease transactions on behalf of landlords and tenants, she is consistently recognized as a recommended lawyer in property leasing by the *Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory*.

Acting on behalf of startups and privately held companies, international franchises, real estate investment trusts and publicly traded companies, Janet works with some of Canada's largest developers and retailers. Her other clients represent a variety of industries, including technology, gaming, financial services, and facility management.

Janet also provides counsel on general business law matters, representing clients in structuring, negotiating and documenting a broad range of corporate / commercial transactions with an emphasis on acquisitions, divestitures, reorganizations and financings. In addition, Janet has acted as counsel in numerous cross-border, multijurisdictional transactions involving foreign purchasers.

Email: janet.derbawka@mcmillan.ca

Expertise: Commercial Real Estate, Leasing, Business Law, Private Equity & Venture Capital, Startups & Emerging Companies

Location: Vancouver

Phone: 604.235.3029

Position/Title: Partner, Commercial Real Estate | Business Law

Community Involvement:

- Volunteer with Girl Guides of Canada

Directorships & Affiliations:

- Co-Chair, 2017 ICSC Whistler Planning Committee
- Member, 2015/2016 ICSC Whistler Planning Committee
- Member, CREW (Vancouver Chapter)
- Member, International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC)
- Conference Co-chair for Leadership for Women Lawyers: Practicing Law in Today's Fast-Paced Environment
- Contributing Editor, O'Brien's Encyclopedia of Forms, Division II Corporations for British Columbia

Education & Admissions:

Degree: Called to the British Columbia bar

Year: 1994

Degree: Called to the Ontario bar

Year: 1994

Degree: LLB

University: University of Toronto

Degree: BComm

University: University of Alberta

Rankings & Recognition:

- Recognized in the 2021 Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory as a Repeatedly Recommended Lawyer in the area of Property Leasing
- Recognized in the 2020 Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory as a Consistently Recommended lawyer in the area of Property Leasing
- Recognized in the 2019 Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory as a Consistently Recommended lawyer in the area of Property Leasing
- Recognized in the 2018 Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory as a Repeatedly Recommended lawyer in the area of Property Leasing
- Consistently recommended. Property Leasing, in the 2018 Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory

Speaking Engagements:

- Commercial Leasing in the Wake of the COVID-19 Pandemic

- August 2020

- <https://www.pbli.com/programs/agenda?itemid=593>

- Offers to Lease From Both the Landlord & Tenant Perspectives: What to Watch out For

- October 2019

- <https://www.realestateforums.com/vancouverrel/en/program/2019-program.html>

- Understanding Co-Tenancy in Leasing Agreements

- Drafting and Negotiating a Proper Transfer Clause

- April 2015

- <http://www.icsc.org/events-and-programs/details/canadian-law-conference3/brochure>

- Omni-Channel Retailing and Percentage Rent Roundtable Leader, ICSC 2015 Conference, Whistler, BC

- January 26, 2015

- <http://www.icsc.org/events-and-programs/details/canadian-law-conference2/brochure/>

- Canadian Shopping Centre Law Conference Speaker, ICSC 2014 Canadian Law Conference

- March 2014

- <http://www.icsc.org/events-and-programs/details/canadian-law-conference2/brochure/>

- Hints from the Hinterland - Tread carefully outside of Ontario; things are different there

- February 2013

- Upload File

- The Persuasive Lawyer Speaker, Leadership for Women Lawyers

- November 2012

- Upload File

- Negotiating In Today's Market: Understanding the Deal, Resolve Key Issues and Close the Transaction

- November 2018

- <https://www.realestateforums.com/vancouverrel/en/program/2018-program.html>

- Passport Revoked: How to Ensure Your Brands Do Not Fail Internationally

- October 2018

- https://www.icsc.org/uploads/event_documents/2018LC_Session_Outlines.pdf

- The Art of Negotiation: More Than you Bargained For ICSC Canadian Shopping Centre Law Conference, Toronto

- April 30, 2018

- <http://www.realestateforums.com/vancouverrel/program/2017-program/>

- Back to Basics: Bankruptcy, Insolvency and Managing Tenants 2017 Vancouver Real Estate Strategy & Leasing Conference

- November 1, 2017

- <http://www.realestateforums.com/vancouverrel/program/2017-program/>

- Speaker Series - Women of Influence (Panelist)

- October 18, 2017

- www.crewvancouver.org

- The Show Must Go On ICSC Canadian Law Conference

- April 27, 2017

- <http://www.realestateforums.com/vancouverrel/program/program-archive/2016-program/>

- Five Lease Clauses That Need Special Attention

- November 1, 2016

- <http://www.realestateforums.com/vancouverrel/program/program-archive/2016-program/>

- Speaker, Canadian Shopping Centre Law Conference, Toronto, Ontario

- April 2016

- <http://www.realestateforums.com/vancouverrel/program/2015-program/>

Representative Matters:

- Act as counsel for landlord of major designer outlet centre in Vancouver.
- Act for major Canadian financial institution in retail and office leasing transactions.
- Act for major technology companies in connection with office leasing matters.



Industries: Private Equity & Venture Capital, Startups & Emerging Companies

Practices: Commercial Real Estate, Leasing, Business Law